



CDSS

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

November 17, 2016

ERRATA

ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) NO. 16-66E

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY CALWORKS PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL COUNTY CALFRESH COORDINATORS
ALL COUNTY WELFARE TO WORK COORDINATORS
ALL CONSORTIA REPRESENTATIVES

SUBJECT: CORRECTION TO ACL 16-66: CALIFORNIA WORK
OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CaWORKs):
REPEAL OF THE MAXIMUM FAMILY GRANT (MFG) RULE

REFERENCE: [ASSEMBLY BILL \(AB\) 1603](#) (CHAPTER 25, STATUTES OF 2016);
WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE (WIC) SECTIONS
[11450.04](#) AND [11265.2](#); AND ACL NO. [16-66](#).

The purpose of this errata is to correct an error in ACL No. 16-66, dated August 26, 2016, regarding the repeal of the CalWORKs MFG rule due to the enactment of AB 1603. ACL No. 16-66 incorrectly states that County Welfare Departments (CWDs) should take mid-period action to add income of children that were previously subject to the MFG rule, even if it results in a decrease to the family's grant. Adding a household member's income is not an allowable county-initiated mid-period action under Semi-Annual Reporting (SAR) or Annual Reporting/Child Only (AR/CO) rules unless it exceeds the Income Reporting Threshold (IRT) for the Assistance Unit's (AU's) size.

Previous Language

ACL No. 16-66, page two, New Rule-paragraph two states:

CWDs are to treat the change in MFG status as a county-initiated mid-period change that must be acted upon with timely and adequate notice, even if the change results in a mid-period decrease to the family's grant. For example, if removing the MFG status

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- State Law Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order
- Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- Initiated by CDSS

from a child and counting their income results in a decrease to the grant amount, the change must still take effect on January 1, 2017, even if January is in the middle of their SAR reporting period.

Revised Language

The language is changed to read:

Once the MFG repeal takes effect, the needs of these children will be included in the MAP amount; however, for children affected by the MFG repeal who have income, their income shall not be considered until the beginning of the following reporting period, unless it puts the AU over their IRT. Under normal circumstances, SAR and AR/CO rules do not allow for a person's needs to be considered without considering their income. However, MFG children are unique in that they were always considered aided members of the AU, and CalWORKs reporting rules do not allow the grant to be decreased mid-period based on an AU member's income unless it is over the IRT.

For example, if a SAR case affected by the MFG repeal is in the October through March SAR payment period, the child that was previously considered MFG must be added to the MAP amount effective January 1, 2017, but if the child has income, it cannot be used in the grant calculation until April 1, 2017, unless the child's income puts the AU over their IRT. However, if a SAR case was in the July through December SAR period, the child's income would be used effective January 1, 2017 (the beginning of their SAR period) as long as the child's income was reasonably anticipated in the Data Month of November. Similarly, the income can only be used in the grant calculation for an AR/CO case if it is over the AU's IRT or if the case's AR/CO period begins in January and the child's income is reasonably anticipated in the Data Month of November.

This new policy shall also apply to the paragraph titled "Other Income" on page four of the ACL.

Former MFG Children Returning To The Home

A child previously deemed an MFG child but is not living in the home on January 1, 2017 who later returns to the home shall be treated in the same manner as any other child using the CW 8A "Statement Of Facts To Add A Child Under 16" or CW 8 if the child is over 16 (add a person) process according to the CWD's procedures.

Child Support Income

The section regarding child support income is not affected by this errata. The California Department of Child Support Services is prepared to retain the child support collected on behalf of these children and pass through the \$50 disregard to the families beginning as soon as the system indicator changes from MFG to CalWORKs eligible.

Informing Clients

CWDs are to provide adequate and timely (10-day) notice to the AU in December 2016 and add the child(ren) to the AU's cash grant effective January 1, 2017. This will increase the AU's grant to the amount that includes the child in the AU MAP. If for some reason the 10-day NOA cannot be sent prior to 10 days before the change to the AU's grant, the child must be added to the AU's MAP and the grant increased by the implementation date and the NOA must be sent as soon as administratively feasible but no later than adequate notice permits (30 days of the change).

Implementation

Consortia must put a workaround in place that will ensure recipients receive the correct grant amount if there is not sufficient time to automate this change prior to January 1, 2017 grant issuances.

If you have any questions regarding this errata or the MFG repeal, please contact the CalWORKs Eligibility Bureau at (916) 654-1322.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

Damien Ladd for Todd R. Bland

TODD R. BLAND
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division

c: CWDA